

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 17, 2006

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1543**

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**Introduced by Senator Alarcon**

February 23, 2006

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*An act relating to career technical education funding to add Sections 51226.15 and 66203.3 to the Education Code, relating to the high school curriculum.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1543, as amended, Alarcon. ~~Career technical education funding~~ *High school curriculum*: high school coursework requirements.

~~Existing law permits the county superintendent of schools of each county, with the consent of the State Board of Education, to establish and maintain, or with one or more counties to establish and maintain, at least one regional occupational center, or regional occupational program, in the county to provide education and training in career technical courses.~~

~~This bill would make a statement of legislative intent to enact legislation that would give priority to a school district that has aligned its graduation requirements with the minimum high school coursework requirements, as specified, established by the University of California and the California State University for admission to their campuses to receive any increase in funding allocated to career technical education programs.~~

*Existing law establishes a 5-year pilot grant program, administered by the State Department of Education, for the purpose of awarding grants to cover the costs of advanced placement examination fees. Existing law authorizes school districts to apply to the department for grant funding under the program based on the number of*

*economically disadvantaged pupils in the district who will take the next offered advanced placement examinations. Existing law repeals those provisions on January 1, 2008.*

*This bill would require each high school that offers 12 or more advanced placement courses within a single academic year to offer within that academic year an adequate number of career technical education courses.*

*(2) Existing law, the Donahoe Higher Education Act, sets forth, among other things, the missions and functions of California's public and independent segments of higher education, and their respective institutions of higher education. Existing law establishes the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California, and the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, as 2 of the public segments of postsecondary education in this state. Provisions of the Donahoe Higher Education Act apply to the University of California only to the extent that the regents act, by resolution, to make those provisions applicable.*

*A provision of the act requires the California State University, and requests the University of California, to establish model academic standards for high school courses for pupils who wish to attend those institutions.*

*This bill would prohibit a campus of the University of California or the California State University from discriminating against the curriculum choices of pupils for admissions purposes if that curriculum meets or exceeds rigorous standards approved by the State Board of Education. The bill would require that, if a pupil completes the required minimum coursework determined necessary for admission to the University of California or the California State University, a campus of the respective segments shall not penalize that pupil, for admissions purposes, if that pupil has completed coursework in career and technical education, fine arts, or any other coursework, as long as those courses have met or exceeded rigorous standards approved by the State Board of Education.*

*Pursuant to existing law, this provision would apply to the University of California only to the extent that the regents act, by resolution, to make this provision applicable.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     *SECTION 1. Section 51226.15 is added to the Education*  
2     *Code, to read:*

3     *51226.15. Each high school that offers 12 or more advanced*  
4     *placement courses within a single academic year shall offer*  
5     *within that academic year an adequate number of career*  
6     *technical education courses.*

7     *SEC. 2. Section 66203.3 is added to the Education Code, to*  
8     *read:*

9     *66203.3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a*  
10    *campus of the University of California or the California State*  
11    *University shall not discriminate against the curriculum choices*  
12    *of pupils for admissions purposes if that curriculum meets or*  
13    *exceeds rigorous standards approved by the State Board of*  
14    *Education. If a pupil completes the required minimum*  
15    *coursework determined necessary for admission to the University*  
16    *of California or the California State University, a campus of the*  
17    *respective segments shall not penalize that pupil, for admissions*  
18    *purposes, if that pupil has completed coursework in career and*  
19    *technical education, fine arts, or any other coursework, as long*  
20    *as those courses have met or exceeded rigorous standards*  
21    *approved by the State Board of Education.*

22    ~~*SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact*~~  
23    ~~*legislation that would give priority to a school district that has*~~  
24    ~~*aligned its graduation requirements with the minimum high*~~  
25    ~~*school coursework requirements, commonly referred to as the*~~  
26    ~~*“A-G requirements,” established by the University of California*~~  
27    ~~*and the California State University for admission to their*~~  
28    ~~*campuses to receive any increase in funding allocated to career*~~  
29    ~~*technical education programs.*~~